

HEALTH
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Health Department,
15, Stockwell Street,
Leek, Staffs.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee of the
Leek Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my sixth
Annual Report, being for the year 1945. In doing so, I follow
the lines indicated by the Minister of Health in Circular 49/45.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The population is mainly composed of artisans
employed in the textile industries of the manufacture and
dyeing of silk and artificial silk.

GENERAL STATISTICS

The area of the Urban District is 4,300 acres
with an estimated population of 17,480.

The rateable value is £103,182 and a penny
rate produces £419.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Live Births -

Legitimate	236	Birth rate per 1,000 of the	14.76
Illegitimate	32	estimated resident population	

<u>Still Births</u>	7	Rate per 1,000 total births	25.45
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Deaths -	233	Death rate per 1,000 of the	14.3
		estimated resident population	

Mean age at death -

Males 65.2 years: Females 67 years; Males & Females 66.1 years

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's short list)

No. 29 Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	Nil
No. 30 Other Puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	1
Total	...	...	...	...	1

Death rate of infants under one year of age - 14

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	52.2
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births				37.46
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births				14.9

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	Nil
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	Nil
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	1

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

- X. Medical Officer of Health (Part time) -
 Arthur Collis Hallowes, M.B., B.Ch. B.A.O. (T.C.Dub.)L.M.(Rotunda)
- X. Chief Sanitary Inspector - also Inspector under the Housing Acts,
 Factory and Workshops Act, Shops Acts and Petroleum Act -
 James Rowbotham, Assoc. M.C.T., M.S.I.A.
- X. Sanitary Inspector - G. Ellis, M.S.I.A.
- Clerk - Miss A. M. Longbottom
- Engineer & Surveyor -
 J. A. Gilchrist, M.Inst, M. & Cy. E., P.A.S.I., A.M.I. Struct.E.
- Sewage Works Manager -
 R. Newman, A.M. Inst. S.F.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

We have two vehicles used solely for this work. The Rolls Royce Ambulance is used chiefly for the removal of surgical cases, accidents etc., whilst the Austin Ambulance is used for Infectious Disease purposes.

TABLE 1.

Notifiable Diseases during the year

	Notified	Removed to Leek Isol- ation Hospital, Bagnall Smallpox Hospital or N. Staffs. Infirmary.		Deaths
Scarlet Fever	17	17	100%	
Whooping Cough	36			
Measles	60			
Diphtheria	4	4	100%	
Pneumonia	5			
Dysentery	2			
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2			
German Measles	7			
Cerebro Spinal Fever	2	2	100%	
	<u>135</u>			

- X. One half of salaries is contributed by Exchequer grants.



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TABLE 11.
Analysis of Notifiable Diseases.

		Age											
	Total	0	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65
Scarlet Fever	17	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	
Whooping Cough	36	3	5	5	3	7	12	1					
Measles	60	7	6	6	4	6	19	6	2	2	2		
Diphtheria	4							1	3				
Pneumonia	5		1										4
Dysentery	2									1			1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2											
German Measles	7						3	4					
Cerebro Spinal Fever	2				2								
Total	135	12	12	11	11	14	44	15	6	3	2	5	

TUBERCULOSIS.

There has been an increase in the number of Tuberculosis notified, details of which are given in Tables 3 and 4.

11 cases of Pulmonary and 5 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year. 4 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis received Sanatorium treatment.

TABLE 111. TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES				MORTALITY			
Pul.		Non-Pul.		Pul.		Non-Pul.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1.							
5.		2					
10.							
15.	1						
20.	1	1		1			
25.	2	1					
35.	2			1			
45.	3						
55.	1						
65 up.			1				
10		4	1	2			
10		5		2			

TABLE 1V.

Notification of Tuberculosis

Year	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
1935	19	3	22
1936	12	7	19
1937	15	7	22
1938	16	5	21
1939	10	9	19
1940	10	2	12
1941	10	7	17
1942	20	4	24
1943	17	13	30
1944	6	-	6
1945	11	5	16

ISOLATION HOSPITALMatron - Miss E. Ulett.

The Isolation Hospital was taken over on October 1st 1938 by the Newcastle and District Joint Hospital Board. Our representation on this Board is three and meetings of the Joint Board were held as occasion demanded during the year.

Patients were dealt with during the year as follows:-

In Hospital on January 1st 1945	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Admitted during 1944	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

In submitting my sixth Annual Report I am glad to say that the work has been carried on in the Health Department in a satisfactory manner. It is noteworthy that only four cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year and is proof of the effectiveness of the Immunisation campaign. There has been no major epidemic. The health of the people of Leek has not deteriorated and our great need at present is for more houses so that we may do away with condemned premises and overcrowding. I have received every help from the Chief Sanitary Inspector and his Staff and I thank them for their co-operation at all times.

A. COLLIS HALLOWES.

TABLE VI.
ANALYSIS OF DEATH RETURNS

	Sex	All Ages		Sex	All Ages
All Causes	M	106	20. Other dis. of	M	-
	F	122	circ. system	F	2
1. Typhoid and parat; Fevers	M	-	21. Bronchitis	M	3
	F	1		F	4
2. Cerebro Spinal Fever	M	-	22. Pneumonia	M	3
	F	-		F	3
3. Scarlet Fever	M	-	23. Other resp.	M	-
	F	-	diseases	F	3
4. Whooping Cough	M	-	24. Ulcer of stomach	M	2
	F	-	or duodenum	F	1
5. Diphtheria	M	-	25. Diarrhoea	M	1
	F	1	(under 2 years)	F	-
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory system	M	-	26. Appendicitis	M	-
	F	2		F	-
7. Other Tuberculosis Diseases	M	-	27. Other Digestive	M	1
	F	-	diseases	F	2
8. Syphilitic Disease	M	-	28. Nephritis	M	3
	F	-		F	4
9. Influenza	M	-	29. Puerperal Sepsis	F	-
	F	1			
10. Measles	M	-	30. Other maternal	F	-
	F	-	causes		
11. Ac. Polio-myel & Polio-encephalitis	M	-	31. Premature birth	M	5
	F	-		F	1
12. Acute Inf. Encephalitis	M	-	32. Congenital	M	3
	F	-	malformations	F	1
13. Cancer of B. Cav: Oesoph (M) Uterus (F)	M	5	birth inj.		
	F	2	infantile dis.		
14. Cancer of stomach & Duodenum	M	3	33. Suicide	M	1
	F	4		F	2
15. Cancer of Breast	F	1	34. Road traffic	M	-
			accident	F	-
16. Cancer of all other sites	M	18	35. Other violent	M	2
	F	13	causes	F	1
17. Diabetes	M	1	36. All other causes	M	5
	F	4		F	8
18. Intracranial vascula lesions	M	13			
	F	7			
19. Heart disease	M	45			
	F	50			

Health Department,
15, Stockwell Street,
Leek.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

To the Chairman and members of the Leek Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour and pleasure to submit to you my twelfth Annual Report being for the year 1945. In many respects we were able in 1945 to get back to our pre-war activities but shortage of labour and material led us to adopt the principle that only in necessitous cases have repairs been insisted upon, thereby interfering as little as possible with the building of new houses.

The details relating to the inspection of meat at the Government Controlled Slaughterhouse are given rather fully in accordance with instructions received.

The new insecticide D.D.T. became available to the public during the year and disinfestation of various premises, using this insecticide, was carried out in the town.

D.D.T. is obtainable in various forms but a 5% solution in paraffin only has been used so far in this Department. It has been very effective in dealing with infestations of flies and bed-bugs. Fourteen premises were treated for bugs and two for flies. Re-inspections were made every week for three weeks after treatment. Infestations of cockroaches received more persistent treatment as these pests are less susceptible to the effects of D.D.T. solution than are flies and bed-bugs.

A Lodging House was treated successfully with D.D.T. solution but it was realised that this is a place which can so easily be re-infested by its floating population that it was possible for bugs to re-appear after the effective period of the D.D.T. Residual Spray had disappeared.

In addition to the food sampling carried out by the County Council the following samples were purchased informally during the year and submitted for analysis:

32 samples of milk

The milk samples found unsatisfactory were followed up by visits to the farms and interviews with the producers and usually when the milk was again sampled it was found to be satisfactory.

In addition 20 samples of water were obtained for analysis and they were all found satisfactory.

MEAT

There was only one slaughterhouse in use during the year and 628 visits were made for the purpose of inspection.

The number of carcasses inspected was 7,937 comprising 2,584 Oxen, 960 Calves, 4,167 Sheep and 226 Pigs.

193 whole carcasses and the following organs were found to be unsound or diseased and were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	2584	960	4167	226
Number inspected	2584	960	4167	226
All diseases except Tuberculosis whole carcase condemned.	59	12	11	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	719	9	435	7
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis.	31.9%	2.9%	10.6%	.39%
Tuberculosis only whole carcase condemned	102	2	-	7
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	813	1	-	12
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with Tuberculosis	35.4%	.03	-	8.4%

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF CARCASSES
CONDEMNED WITH CAUSES OF CONDEMNATION.

		<u>CATTLE</u>				<u>SHEEP</u>	
	Whole carcase & offal	<u>Quarters</u>		<u>Meat</u>	Whole carcase & Offal	<u>Mutton</u>	
		<u>Hind</u>	<u>Fore</u>				
TUBERCULOSIS	102	2	49	521 lbs.	-	-	
EMACIATION & OEDEMA	45	-	-	-	8	-	
SEPTIC CONDITIONS	8	-	-	-	-	-	
PERITONITIS	2	-	-	-	-	-	
MORIBUND & ILLBEED	2	-	-	-	1	-	
INJURY	1	9	2	721 lbs	1	94 lbs.	
ANAEMIA	1	-	-	-	-	-	
IMMATURITY	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Totals	161	11	51	1242 lbs.	11	94 lbs.	

		<u>CALVES</u>			<u>PIGS</u>	
TUBERCULOSIS	2	-	-	-	7	-
EMACIATION & OEDEMA	2	-	-	-	-	-
PERITONITIS	2	-	-	-	-	-
IMMATURITY	4	-	-	-	-	-
GANGRENOUS PNEUMONIA	3	-	-	-	-	-
ABSCESSSES	1	-	-	-	-	-
MALEFORMATION	-	-	-	10 lbs.	-	-
Totals	14	-	-	10 lbs.	7	-

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF ORGANS
CONDEMNED WITH CAUSES OF CONDEMNATION.

	<u>CATTLE</u>	<u>CALVES</u>	<u>SHEEP</u>	<u>PIGS</u>
<u>LUNGS:</u>				
Tuberculosis	685	1	-	-
Abscesses	4	-	-	-
Pneumonia	7	1	-	2
Pleurisy	16	-	-	-
Parasites	44	-	1	-
Emaciation	1	-	-	-
Other conditions	52	1	-	-
Total	<u>809</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>HEARTS:</u>				
Pericarditis:T.B.	7	-	-	-
Pericarditis	9	-	-	-
Contamination	-	-	1	-
Oedema	1	-	-	-
Total	<u>17</u>	-	<u>1</u>	-
<u>MESENTERIES:</u>				
Tuberculosis	155	-	-	-
Total	<u>155</u>	-	-	-
<u>STOMACHS:</u>				
Tuberculosis	2	-	-	-
Peritonitis	2	-	-	-
Total	<u>4</u>	-	-	-
<u>SPLEENS:</u>				
Tuberculosis	17	-	-	-
Abscesses	1	-	-	-
Oedema	1	-	-	-
Peritonitis	3	-	-	-
Degeneration	1	-	-	-
Total	<u>23</u>	-	-	-
<u>HEADS & TONGUES:</u>				
Tuberculosis	392	1	-	11
Actinomyces	10	1	-	-
Abscesses	3	1	1	-
Oedema	2	-	-	-
Injury	1	-	5	-
Total	<u>408</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>LIVERS:</u>				
	<u>Whole</u>	<u>Part</u>		
Tuberculosis	178	-	-	-
Necrosis	-	-	-	1
Abscesses	54	-	1	-
Cirrhosis	17	-	-	1
Car. Angioma	79	-	-	-
Echinococcus	3	-	5	-
Discretosis	215	451	430	-
Oedema	2	-	-	-
Fatty Degeneration	66	-	-	-
Tumours	1	-	-	-
Peritonitis	1	-	-	-
Total	<u>621</u>	-	<u>436</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>SKIN:</u>				
Tuberculosis	7	-	-	-
Pleurisy	1	-	-	-
Total	<u>8</u>	-	-	-

RODENT CONTROL.

The destruction of rats and mice in business premises, private dwelling-houses and in the sewers has occupied a great deal of time during the year, visits being divided as follows:-

Sewer maintenance treatment	8 day 550 visits
Business premises and Private dwellings	328 visits

92 business premises were inspected and test-baited. Undertakings to disinfect were asked for by owners of 17 business premises when the evidence of infestation had been indicated to them. The treatments of these infested premises were successful and all rodents in the buildings at the time were destroyed.

The carrying out of initial inspections and test-baiting is found to be necessary as very few complaints are received. The Ministry of Food Coupon inserted in the local newspapers elicited one complaint, although it is known that many dwelling-houses and business premises lie within the influence of major infestations in the town.

It is intended to inspect and treat systematically all such premises and it is anticipated that Rodent Control will necessarily have to occupy more time and labour during the coming year.

The Staffs. War Agricultural Executive Committee's Rodent Operatives have treated the Town refuse tip frequently during the year and have destroyed many rats at the tip-face by pre-baiting and gassing methods.

One maintenance treatment of the sewers was carried out successfully and the number of bait takes indicated that the initial treatment of 1944 had markedly reduced the number of rats. 78 manholes out of a possible total of 491 were baited.

Twelve P3 traps were brought into operation at the end of the year and the use of these will eliminate the possibility of domestic animals being poisoned.

I represent you on the North Staffs. Planning and Advisory Committee for Rodent Control and several meetings were held during the year.

Liaison has always been maintained with the officers of the Rodent Section of the Midland Division of the Ministry of Food and several inspections have been made in conjunction with them. Their advice and co-operation has been most welcome.

TABLE VIII.

H O U S I N G

1.	Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:	
(1)	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	27
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	52
(2)	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded.	27
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	52
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	27
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the previous sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	Nil
2.	Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice:	
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.	Nil
3.	Action under Statutory powers during the year:	
	(a) Proceedings under sections 9,10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
	(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
	(a) By Owners	Nil
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
	(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
	(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	6
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
	(a) By Owners	6
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

TABLE VIII (continued)

(c)	Proceedings under sections 11 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.	11
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.	Nil
(d)	Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.	Nil
(2)	Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the room or tenement having been rendered fit.	Nil

HOUSE REFUSE REMOVAL

There are three motor vehicles engaged solely on the collection of house refuse disposed of by tipping.

2,387 loads of ashes and house refuse were removed during the year.

TABLE 1X
SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE TOWN.

1.	Premises cleansed and repaired	...	...	...	16
2.	Drains tested	...	...	...	6
3.	" reconstructed	...	...	...	4
4.	" repaired	...	...	...	3
5.	" cleansed	...	...	...	15
6.	Water closets cleansed	...	...	...	4
7.	" " repaired	...	...	...	1
8.	" " constructed	...	...	...	-
9.	Flushing arrangements provided	...	...	...	5
10.	Waste pipes altered or repaired	...	...	...	2
11.	Rain water pipes repaired	...	...	...	15
12.	Roofs and gutters repaired	...	...	...	11
13.	Additional light provided	...	...	...	1
14.	Additional ventilation provided	...	...	...	2
15.	Damp conditions remedied	...	...	...	17
16.	Yards drained and paved	...	...	...	1
17.	Dustbins provided	...	...	...	21
18.	Fireplaces provided or repaired	...	...	...	5
19.	Coppers provided or repaired	...	...	...	1
20.	Cases of overcrowding abated	...	...	...	2
21.	Accumulations of manure etc., removed	...	...	...	3
22.	Smoke nuisances	...	...	...	-
23.	Cesspools cleansed	...	...	...	1
24.	Rooms disinfested	...	...	...	21
25.	Privies converted into water closets	...	...	...	-
26.	Staircases repaired	...	...	...	2
27.	Handrails provided	...	...	...	-
28.	Windows repaired	...	...	...	3
29.	Floors repaired	...	...	...	4
30.	Walls and ceilings repaired	...	...	...	8
31.	Food storage provided	...	...	...	-
32.	Water supply provided or repaired	...	...	...	3
33.	Sinks provided	...	...	...	-
34.	Doors repaired	...	...	...	5
35.	Back doors provided	...	...	...	-
36.	Walls pointed	...	...	...	1
37.	Chimney stacks repaired	...	...	...	1
38.	Other nuisances	...	...	...	7
Total					<u>191</u>
No.	of preliminary notices served	...	...	...	84
No.	of preliminary notices complied with without the				
	service of statutory notices	...	...	...	61
No.	of statutory notices served	...	...	...	1
No.	of statutory notices complied with	...	...	...	1

A summons was taken out against one owner for a nuisance which despite letters and interviews she would not abate. An order to abate the nuisance was obtained together with costs for the Council.

TABLE X.

SUMMARY

No. of premises where Notifiable diseases have occurred	153
No. of premises inspected where	19
No. of premises disinfected "	57
Nuisances reported to Health Department ...	101
Inspection of premises where nuisances were found ...	99
" premises where no nuisances were found...	2
" premises where offensive trades are conducted ...	-
" houses let in lodgings ...	4
" Common Lodging Houses ...	5
" Workshops ...	12
" Factories ...	4
" Slaughterhouses ...	628
" Dairies, Milkshops and Farms ...	39
" Bakehouses ...	2
" Markets and Stalls ...	42
" Food premises ...	64
re-inspections after complaints ...	266
" under Housing Acts ...	25
Total ...	<u>1522</u>

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER 1926.

The register under this Order is made up as follows:-

86 persons registered
47 as cowkeepers
71 as retail purveyors
16 as retailers of bottled and sterilized milk
14 as wholesale producers

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER 1936.

Under this Order there eight persons licensed to sell Accredited Milk; one to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk and one to sell Pasteurised Milk from seven premises.

FOOD INSPECTIONS.

No. of Inspections	...	...	...	71
<u>Foodstuffs Condemned</u>	...	...	...	
Assorted Foodstuffs	...	...	...	297 tins
Pork Luncheon Meat	...	...	...	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Pork Sausage Meat	...	...	...	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Bacon	...	...	...	12 $\frac{3}{4}$ "
Sugar	...	...	...	4 $\frac{3}{4}$ "
Cheese	...	...	...	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Lard	...	...	...	6 "
Butter	...	...	...	67 $\frac{3}{4}$ "
Tinned Meat	...	...	...	264 "
Dates	...	...	...	65 "
Ham	...	...	...	12 "
Chopped Ham	...	...	...	6 "
Haricot Beans	...	...	...	235 "
Potatoes	...	...	...	29 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwts.
Dried Peas	...	...	...	1 "
Eggs	...	...	...	2 cases (3 doz.)

Imported and Canned Meats

No. of Inspections	...	...	...	19
Chopped Ham	...	...	...	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Boneless Manfrg. Beef	...	...	...	74 "
Canned Corned Beef	...	...	...	150 "
Canned Mutton	...	...	...	798 "

J. ROWBOTHAM.

